

Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 OC-06 CCO-00 CIAE-00
PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 MCT-01 DHA-02 AID-05 OPR-02 USSS-00 SCA-01
A-01 OMB-01 SY-05 SSO-00 NSCE-00 OCL-00 FBO-02
SCS-03 /101 R

DRAFTED BY AF/E:RBAKER:CJ

APPROVED BY AF/E:RSPOST

S/S:MR. STEINER

-----240449Z 099548 /10

P 240407Z APR 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL AFRICAN DIPLOMATIC POSTS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ATHENS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY SANA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY JIDDA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY CAIRO PRIORITY

USIA PRIORITY

SECDEF PRIORITY

CSA PRIORITY

CSAF PRIORITY

CNO PRIORITY

CMC PRIORITY

CINCEUR PRIORITY

CINCPAC PRIORITY

CINCRED PRIORITY

CINCLANT PRIORITY

CINCMAC PRIORITY

DIRNSA PRIORITY

DCA PRIORITY

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WHCA PRIORITY

S E C R E T STATE 092324

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, ET, US

SUBJECT: ETHIOPIA WORKING GROUP SITUATION REPORT NO. 1:
SITUATION WITH REGARD TO WITHDRAWAL OF USG PERSONNEL FROM
ETHIOPIA AS OF 1900 HOURS (EST), APRIL 23, 1977

1. AT 12:14 P.M., THE DEPARTMENT RECEIVED CABLE FROM
ADDIS ABABA INFORMING US OUR EMBASSY HAD JUST RECEIVED
DIPLOMATIC NOTES FROM ETHIOPIAN GOVERNMENT REQUIRING
THAT FIVE USG FACILITIES CEASE OPERATION AND THAT THEIR
PERSONNEL LEAVE ETHIOPIA WITHIN FOUR DAYS. FACILITIES
INVOLVED ARE NAVAL MEDICAL RESEARCH UNIT (NAMRU), USIS
AND MAAG DETACHMENT, ALL LOCATED IN ADDIS ABABA, AND OUR
CONSULATE GENERAL AND KAGNEW STATION COMMUNICATIONS
FACILITY, BOTH AT ASMARA.

2. FOLLOWING RECEIPT THIS REPORT, DECISION WAS IMMEDIATELY
MADE TO FORM DEPARTMENTAL WORKING GROUP, HEADED BY
ASST. SECRETARY OF STATE WILLIAM E. SCHAUFLE, JR. WORKING
GROUP BEGAN FUNCTIONING IN DEPARTMENT'S OPERATIONS
CENTER (202-632-9380 THROUGH 9383) AT 3:20 P.M. (EST).

3. INSTRUCTIONS IMMEDIATELY DISPATCHED TO OUR EMBASSY
ADDIS ABABA TO SEEK MEETING WITH ETHIOPIAN AUTHORITIES IN
ORDER PROTEST SHORT DEADLINE AND REQUEST EXTENSION.

OUR AMBASSADORS IN DAR-ES-SALAAM AND NAIROBI WERE INSTRUCT-
ED TO SEEK HOST GOVERNMENT SUPPORT FOR OUR EFFORTS TO
SECURE AN EXTENSION OF THE DEADLINE.

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4. PRESS STATEMENT PREPARED AND MADE AVAILABLE AT
APPROXIMATELY 3:30 P.M. AT 5:00 P.M., AMBASSADOR
SCHAUFLE CONVENED MEETING IN STATE DEPARTMENT OPERATIONS
CENTER, INCLUDING REPRESENTATIVES OF ALL CONCERNED USG
AGENCIES. FOLLOWING ACTIONS DECIDED UPON:

A) DOD WILL SEND ALERT MESSAGE TO USEUCOM, ORDERING
THEM TO BEGIN EVACUATION PLANNING FOR MILITARY ELEMENTS
ON ASSUMPTION THAT THE 4-DAY DEADLINE WILL HOLD. KAGNEW
IS TO PLAN FOR MILITARY AIRLIFT, ADDIS ELEMENTS FOR
COMMERCIAL CHARTER UNDER DIRECTION EMBASSY. MAC IS TO
BE INSTRUCTED TO MAKE PRELIMINARY ARRANGEMENTS FOR THESE
CHARTERS.

B) STATE WILL SEND MESSAGE ORDERING EMBASSY TO BEGIN
SIMILAR PLANNING FOR ADDIS-BASED PERSONNEL, AND TO INI-
Tiate DEPARTURES OF PERSONNEL AS POSSIBLE USING SPACE
ON REGULAR COMMERCIAL FLIGHTS. EMBASSY WILL ALSO BE
TOLD TO STRESS TO ETHIOPIAN PROVISIONAL MILITARY GOVERNMENT

(EPMG) UNREASONABLENESS OF THE 4-DAY DEADLINE; OUR RIGHT UNDER RELEVANT AGREEMENTS (SPECIFICALLY IN CASE OF KAGNEW) TO HAVE SUFFICIENT TIME FOR ORDERLY TERMINATION OF OUR OPERATIONS; AND THEIR RESPONSIBILITY FOR SECURITY OF AMERICAN PERSONNEL AND PROPERTY.

C) EUCOM WILL BE ASKED BY DOD TO PROVIDE ESTIMATE OF NUMBER OF AIRCRAFT NECESSARY TO EVACUATE PERSONNEL AND EQUIPMENT AT KAGNEW, ON BASIS OF WHICH WE WILL INFORM EPMG OF OUR NEED FOR FLIGHT CLEARANCES.

D) EMBASSY ADDIS WILL BE TOLD TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS TO INFORM ALL PRIVATE AMERICANS IN ETHIOPIA OF SITUATION.

E) IT WAS DECIDED THAT SATELLITE FACILITY AT KAGNEW WOULD REMAIN IN OPERATION FOR AS LONG AS POSSIBLE IN ORDER PROVIDE FAST COMMUNICATIONS WITH STATION.

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F) NEIGHBORING POSTS WILL BE INFORMED THAT TRAVEL ADVISORY WARNING AGAINST TRAVEL TO ETHIOPIA BY AMERICANS REMAINS IN EFFECT.

G) A FOLLOW-ON MEETING WILL BE HELD AT 1:00 P.M. ON APRIL 24.

5. FURTHER PRESS STATEMENT AND QUESTIONS-AND-ANSWERS HAVE BEEN PREPARED AND WILL BE IN HANDS OF PRESS SPOKESMAN TO RESPOND TO NUMEROUS QUERIES EXPECTED AFTER STORY CARRIED ON EVENING NEWS REPORTS. QUESTIONS FROM DOD FAMILIES BEING REFERRED TO SERVICES' FAMILY LIAISON OFFICES; QUESTIONS FROM FAMILIES OF CIVILIAN AGENCY PERSONNEL AND FROM PUBLIC BEING HANDLED BY WORKING GROUP.
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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REPORTS, CLOSURE OF OFFICES, MILITARY BASE CLOSINGS, CONSULATE CLOSING, EVACUATION PLANS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 24-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
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Format: TEL
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Review Release Event: n/a
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